

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15

OIC-04 OMB-01 ACDA-19 /164 R

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7/17/73 EXT. 20512

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 140242

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, KS, KN

SUBJ: ROK FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVE: UNGA DEBATE

REF: SEOUL 4627

1. SHOULD ROK RAISE POSSIBILITY OF SEEKING GENERAL COMMITTEE AGREEMENT TO PROCEDURAL MOVE TO BYPASS FIRST COMMITTEE AND DEBATE KOREAN QUESTION ONLY IN UNGA PLENARY, YOU SHOULD STRONGLY DISCOURAGE IDEA.

2. SUCH A MOVE WOULD BE CONTRARY TO PAST UNGA PRACTICES ON KOREA AND WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE VIEWED GENERALLY AS TRANS-PARENT MANEUVER TO AVOID NORTH KOREAN PARTICIPATION. THUS, IT WOULD LIKELY STIMULATE OPPOSITION NOT ONLY FROM NORTH KOREA'S SUPPORTERS BUT ALSO FROM DELEGATIONS WHICH (A) BELIEVE ALL PARTIES INVOLVED IN ISSUES HAVE RIGHT TO BE
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HEARD; AND/OR (B) DISLIKE DEVIATION FROM NORMAL UNGA

PRACTICE. MOREOVER, WHILE NON-MEMBERS OF UN TRADITIONALLY ARE NOT INVITED TO SPEAK IN PLENARY, THERE IS NO BAR TO THEIR DOING SO AND WE COULD EXPECT OTHER SIDE TO RAISE THIS POSSIBILITY.

3. MOVE WOULD BE PARTICULARLY ILL-RECEIVED, IN OUR VIEW, FOLLOWING PRESIDENT PARK'S STATEMENT (IN JUNE 23 SPEECH) EXPRESSING NO OPPOSITION TO NORTH KOREAN PARTICIPATION IN DEBATE AND PYONGYANG'S ACQUISITION OF UN OBSERVER STATUS. IN ALL LIKELIHOOD IT WOULD GENERATE HEATED POLEMICAL DISCUSSION WHICH WE WISH TO AVOID.

4. WITH STRENGTHENED UNGA POSITION ROK'S SUPPORTERS NOW HAVE DUE TO NEW AND FLEXIBLE ROK POLICY, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE SERIOUS MISTAKE TO GET INVOLVED IN A TACTICAL BATTLE WHICH IS BOTH UNNECESSARY AND UNLIKELY TO SUCCEED.
RUSH

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